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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 17, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 12 totaled an estimated 15.8 billion ton-miles, 7.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both periods included the second week of the coal miners' holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 28 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 493 billion ton-miles, 3.0 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 12 totaled 375,570 cars, 16.5 percent below 1979, but 8.7 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Grain loadings totaled 36,437, the third all-time high and the highest since the week ended January 19, 1973. Compared with last year, loadings were down 28.9 percent in the East, 14.3 percent in the South, and 9.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1979, 19 of the 21 commodity groups declined. Seventeen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 5 totaled 26,515 cars, down 20.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1979, and 48,492 trailers and/or containers, 17.0 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 27 weeks of the year was 876,018 cars, 9.5 percent lower than last year, and 1,593,658 trailers and/or containers, down 6.8 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/12/80:

	Loadings in Week Ended July 12, 1980		Change From Corresponding Week 1979		Change From Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	36,437	I	4,593	14.4	I 5,696	18.5
Other farm products	4,689	I	920	24.4	I 702	17.6
Metallic ores	30,598	D	12,836	29.6	I 1,940	6.8
Coal	70,613	D	3,835	5.2	I 1,343	1.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,825	D	4,653	23.9	I 2,511	20.4
Nonmetallic minerals	17,009	D	316	1.8	I 2,467	17.0
Grain mill products	15,468	D	1,971	11.3	I 1,615	11.7
Food and kindred products	16,755	D	1,267	7.0	I 1,788	11.9
Primary forest products	18,965	D	1,937	9.3	I 3,728	24.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,342	D	4,273	36.8	I 643	9.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,995	D	3,368	16.5	D 757	4.3
Chemicals and allied products	24,208	D	3,840	13.7	I 2,947	13.9
Petroleum products	5,503	D	1,138	17.1	I 931	20.4
Stone, clay and glass products	14,739	D	4,961	25.2	I 1,679	12.9
Coke	3,871	D	3,797	49.5	I 310	8.7
Metals and products	12,118	D	6,406	34.6	I 274	2.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	12,575	D	7,012	35.8	D 231	1.8
Waste and scrap materials	9,116	D	5,302	36.8	I 1,201	15.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,683	D	2,940	25.3	D 97	1.1
All other carloads	34,912	D	9,374	21.2	I 1,523	4.6
LCL Traffic	149	D	248	62.5	D 13	8.0
Total Cars Loaded	375,570	D	73,961	16.5	I 30,200	8.7
Corresponding week of 1979	449,531					

	1980	1979	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (28 Weeks)	12,203,890	12,706,799	D 4.0
Estimated Revenue Ton-Miles (in billions):			
27 Weeks Cumulative	477.6	462.0	I 3.4
Week Ended July 12	15.8	17.1	D 7.8
28 Weeks Cumulative	493.4	479.1	I 3.0

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